

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Replace the heading immediately prior to paragraph [0001] with the following rewritten heading:

~~Description~~

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

1. Technical Field

Insert the following heading immediately prior to paragraph [0003]:

2. Related Art

Insert the following heading immediately prior to paragraph [0009]:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Insert the following new paragraph immediately prior to paragraph [0009]:

A sealing element, especially a flat seal, consisting of a metal-supported elastomer material, containing sealing profiles that are offset from one another, between which, at given intervals, elements that provide acoustic de-coupling, also made of elastomer material, are located.

Insert the following heading immediately prior to paragraph [0014]:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Replace paragraph [0014] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0014] Figure 1 ~~is a Partial~~ partial section through an elastomeric sealing element;

Replace paragraph [0015] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0015] ~~Figures 2 & 3 Sections through the sealing element, per Figure 1. Figure 2 is a~~ section through the sealing element, per Figure 1, at section A-A; and

Insert the following new paragraph directly after paragraph [0015]:

Figure 3 is a section through the sealing element, per Figure 1, at section B-B.

Insert the following heading immediately prior to paragraph[0016]:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

Replace paragraph [0016] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0016] Figure 1 shows, in partial section, sealing element 1, made of elastomer material. This has [[S]]sealing [[P]]profiles 4, 5 in its edge areas 2, 3. In the area of the extension of the sealing element 1, several pass-through holes 6 are provided. Between the sealing profiles 4, 5 and the holes 6, elements 7 with approximately hemispherical cross-section are provided, which serve for acoustic de-coupling, if the sealing element 1 is installed between resonance bodies, such as housing covers, cylinder head covers, oil covers, vacuum devices, or similar.

Replace the heading on line 1 of page 5 as follows:

~~Patent claims~~

I claim:

Replace the abstract originally filed with the attached one page abstract.